

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 08:52:14 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 06:04:41 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502280637.A26868-0100000@indy2>
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indynet.indy.net>
Subject: RE: Airborne Aerials

On Mon, 27 Feb 1995, David W. Barts wrote:

> I would advise *extreme* caution in any attempts to use such antennas.
> [kite- or balloon-borne]
> I forget the exact geophysical term for the phenomenon, but [...]
> It is easy to develop shockingly (pun intended) high voltages from a
> wire strung in this fashion, even on a completely clear and calm day!
> To this can be added the buildup of static charges, and not just from
> thunderstorms [...].

There are a couple of old-time tricks that can help: a "drain choke," just a handy RFC of the generic 2.5 mH variety, from the antenna to ground to keep the thing at a low DC potential; this was a fairly common practice in shipboard radio installations, I'm told. It works, though you'll want to be mindful of RF potentials at the feedpoint. It's not easy to make an R-100 flash over but I'm sure it can be done! (Many AM stations do something similar in the process of getting the power to the tower lights onto their base-fed transmitting towers, using *really* big chokes!)

The other method won't work at higher powers, but it's fun to watch if you're not going to be pushing lots of watts into the wire: a neon bulb (NE-2 or bigger) from antenna to ground will clamp the voltage at that point to ~90V. In my youth (shortly after the French & Indian War), I used this method on a receiving longwire in thunderstormy Indiana, and it's fascinating how even distant storms and random static buildup will make the neon lamp flash.

There is one drawback: in the right conditions, the antenna will s-l-o-w-l-y build up a charge 'til the neon fires briefly, then repeat the process--and making a loud "TICK!" in your headphones every time!

...A third possibility, though rather complex to implement, might prove safest of all; there's no reason why the floating wire couldn't be grounded at the bottom and shunt-fed! Better pack your lunch and invest in a winch, though--adjusting the shunt-feed point would be an awfully slow process. :)

As ever, caveat high-tension lines! This is more of a Field Day antenna, best done a goodly distance away from civilization or at least overhead utility wiring.

73,
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 20:36:03 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 16:13:22 -0600
Message-Id: <2F536B9D@sharkgate.sandiegoca.attgis.com>
From: "Kenan, Larry" <llk@sandshark.sandiegoca.ATTGIS.COM>
Subject: RE: Airborne Aerials

> From: Dave=Sharp%Legal%Corp=Hou

..

> I had a 500 W am modulator (pair of 811's modulating a pair of 813's)
> many moons ago and it had a factory spark gap across the windings that you

> could forceably start an arc thru (with the RF side off of course). Anyway

> the arc started me to thinking- could I modulate a flame. I tried it and
> found that a flame (of any sort) conducts electricity. The physical flame
> space made an omnidirectional speaker.

DeForest tried all that stuff too. He claimed that was the path that led to
the audion. The filament was a substitute for the flame.
He also built flame speakers and flame microphones.

Larry Kenan

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 21:33:05 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:58:15 -0600
Message-Id: <6883@sat.ampr.org>
From: ki5sl@sat.n5lyt.ampr.org (Rick_Blank)
Subject: RE: Airborne Aerials

In message <m0rjU9G-000uHHC@twisto.eng.hou.compaq.com>
Dave=Sharp%Legal%Corp=Hou@bangate.compaq.com writes:

.stuff deleted....

>

> I had a 500 W am modulator (pair of 811's modulating a pair of 813's)
> many moons ago and it had a factory spark gap across the windings that you
> could forceably start an arc thru (with the RF side off of course). Anyway
> the arc started me to thinking- could I modulate a flame. I tried it and
> found that a flame (of any sort) conducts electricity. The physical flame
> space made an omnidirectional speaker. That's why I later knew that missile
> exhaust flame conducted (we also found the vapor trail does too (but to a
> lesser degree)

>
> I know, I know, where's all this leading as regards to BA's. Just that tall
> aerials make good lightning "magnets" and adequate precaution should always
> be used. Also that I am interested in hearing about other folks stories and
> tales regarding lightning. Preferrably first hand experiences.
>
> Dave Sharp
> Houston, TX USA
> dave=sharp%legal%corp=hou@bangate.compaq.com
> Someday when they move to space, they'll need us firebottle types.
>
>

There is an audiophile tweeter made in Germany, I believe, that
uses the plasma effect of electricity modulating a flame...it's
been a while sice I read anything on it but I also seem to
remember something about substantial amounts of ozone production
accompanying this effect....the tweeter is supposed to approach
the ideal design effort of a true "point source" sound
reproducer. I also believe some of the radio pioneers experimented
with such things in the 20's and 30's, if I remember
correctly...anybody got any more "fill" on this?

--

Rick Blank, KI5SL
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org
2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212
end

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 23:47:21 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 09:37:46 -0600
Message-Id: <m0rjU9G-000uHHC@twisto.eng.hou.compaq.com>
From: Dave=Sharp%Legal%Corp=Hou@bangate.compaq.com
Subject: RE: Airborne Aerials

There is a "normal" gradient of about 300 volts / meter around many places on
the earth on dry days. Here in Houston we don't have that problem, but I
think Tesla was probably right in some of his "goofey" experiments to
use that "ether" to propagate power through it. Of course he was pumping
major megawatts thru it too. We used to have some sensitive electrometers
around our weapons storage areas (while I was in the military) with an alram
going off if the voltage exceeded 600 v / meter. That usually meant we were
going to get "heat lightning". It didn't matter if there was a cloud in the
sky or not. All lightning is very dangerous. Especially bad on silicon but it
will certainly vaporize parts of even the best BA's.

We have a model rocketry group here at the company and one of them was planning to launch a rocket with a trailing wire. He said that many times that would cause a lightning strike there and then. He wanted to photograph it. (presumably from the top down). I don't know what he's done in this area lately, but we had some of the same problems in the Army.

I had a 500 W am modulator (pair of 811's modulating a pair of 813's) many moons ago and it had a factory spark gap across the windings that you could forceably start an arc thru (with the RF side off of course). Anyway the arc started me to thinking- could I modulate a flame. I tried it and found that a flame (of any sort) conducts electricity. The physical flame space made an omnidirectional speaker. That's why I later knew that missile exhaust flame conducted (we also found the vapor trail does too (but to a lesser degree))

I know, I know, where's all this leading as regards to BA's. Just that tall aerials make good lightning "magnets" and adequate precaution should always be used. Also that I am interested in hearing about other folks stories and tales regarding lightning. Preferrably first hand experiences.

Dave Sharp
Houston, TX USA
dave=sharp%legal%corp=hou@bangate.compaq.com
Someday when they move to space, they'll need us firebottle types.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:22:41 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 08:53:21 -0600
Message-Id: <199502281504.AA07455@mailstorm.dot.gov>
From: Thomas Bryan <tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov>
Subject: bead blasting (fwd) Was Cleaning capacitors

I am forwarding this message to the list. It from the fellow who wrote the article in ER about the restoration of the Japanese receiver.

Tom Bryan
tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov

Forwarded message:
> From Klakin@aol.com Tue Feb 28 00:03:45 1995
> Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 00:02:13 -0500
> From: Klakin@aol.com
> Message-Id: <950228000212_34495459@aol.com>
> To: tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov
> Cc: gilstrap@ssd.fsi.com
> Subject: bead blasting
>

> Tom, Stan, et.al.;
> In my restoration of the radio I did bead blast the small antenna trim
> capacitor. There should be no problem in bead blasting the plates of variable
> caps. It will be necessary to protect bearings or bearing surfaces. On flat
> surfaces I simply masked with Magic Mending tape. One could use any soft
> elastic material for masking.
> Anything that changes the capacitor plate spacing, like corrosion, could in
> principle change the capacitance, but in most instances it would be a very
> small effect.
> Bead blasting produces a matte finish, not the bright shiny finish found on
> most variable capacitors. However, short of taking the capacitor apart and po
l
> ishing the individual plates, this is the best you will do.
> As for procedure, open the capacitor plates and direct the bead stream at an
> angle through the plates. I used the smallest beads I could buy. I would not
> use sand!
> I hope this helps,
> Ken
>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 12:11:38 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 09:07:33 -0600
Message-Id: <9502281517.AA18051@nwd2sun1.analog.com>
From: David Upton <David.Upton@analog.com>
Subject: Re: BOATANCHORS digest 73--Carl and Jerry

This made me pull out all my old PE's and start to reread these
treasures. Remember the companion Mac's Service shop also written by
Frye.

>
> Carl & Jerry are relics of a simpler time and place, but they're fon
>remembered just the same.
> 73's,
>
> Tom, WPE9GSX (another blast from
> POP'Tronix past...)
>

Don't know about the referenced articles-probably before my time-but I
can heartily recommend Frye's writing to anyone who wants to understand
firebottle tech--at least in the average receiver. Equipped with a copy of
Modern Radio Servicing and a 5000 ohms/volt VOM at the tender age of 8 I was
coming up with leaky by-passes, bad electros, etc. Frye's text was so
intuitive to follow compared to almost all of the other books I have read

except maybe Terman...Ah but that's another story. He had an ability to transfer experiences in a particularly meaningful way through stories and phrases many of which stuck. I can still recall many of the maxims stated in the book and I even ran into one or two of the things he said he had seen twice or so in his professional lifetime. That copy is so dogeared that it falls apart regularly but I wouldn't trade it for a new one. Ghirardi's Radio Physics Course is useful for the reader that can take some math and Cooke's Mathematics for Electricians and Radiomen helps with complex numbers but Frye will provide an intuitive understanding of what's going on that is priceless.

David M. Upton, WB1CMG
David.Upton@Analog.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 18:35:59 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 16:15:29 -0600
Message-Id: <199502282227.0AA25781@igc3.igc.apc.org>
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Subject: Re: BOATANCHORS digest 73--Carl and Jerry

> > Carl & Jerry are relics of a simpler time and place, but they're fon
> > remembered just the same.
> > 73's,
> >
> > Tom, WPE9GSX (another blast from
> > POP'Tronix past...)
> >

Thanks for bringing back the memories, Tom.

Dick Dillman/WPE2VT

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 08:52:17 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 06:09:01 -0600
Message-Id: <9502281216.AA27893@postoffice.rfc.comm.harris.com>
From: emg@rfc.comm.harris.com
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

OK gang, we heard from Tom, WPE9GSX and Bill, WPE9IRP, how many more of us are out there ? Oh, yes, I'm Ed WPE2JR (K2MP)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 09:56:10 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 07:01:04 -0600
Message-Id: <9502281309.AA24204@unlinfo.unl.edu>
From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (daniel wright)
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

Tom and Bill sez:

```
> > Carl & Jerry are relics of a simpler time and place, but they're fon
> > remembered just the same.
> >
> > 73's,
> >
> > Tom, WPE9GSX (another blast from
> > POP'Tronix past...)
> >
> 73 de N9MHT Bill (also WPE9IRR and ex WN9DKA)
>
> .. My Poor Man's Collins is a Heathkit SB102
> ---
> * 73 de N9MHT TLX v3.40 *
```

What a Kick! I remember these swl "callsigns" too. How many of us sent in to Popular Electronics and got one of these things?? I was(am,I guess) WPE0DEN....I used to drive the "skip-shootin'" CBer up the street,whose call was real..KGH4846 nuts using my WPE call with my buddy on our part 15 walkie-talkies (Knight-kits!).....ahhhh,the mid Sixties!

73 de dan -- WA0JRD(WPE0DEN)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 10:30:24 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 07:41:53 -0600
Message-Id: <2F534693@MSMGATE.TRACOR.COM>
From: "Kasprzyk, Emil" <EFK@eng2.tracor.com>
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

Emil KC5IZ, WPE5IE

>From: boatanchors
To: Multiple recipients of list
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 1995 6:09AM

OK gang, we heard from Tom, WPE9GSX and Bill, WPE9IRP, how many more of us are out there ? Oh, yes, I'm Ed WPE2JR (K2MP)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 18:26:26 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 16:16:02 -0600
Message-Id: <199502282227.0AA25773@igc3.igc.apc.org>
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

> OK gang, we heard from Tom, WPE9GSX and Bill, WPE9IRP, how many more of
> us are out there ? Oh, yes, I'm Ed WPE2JR (K2MP)
>

Does anyone still have the license itself? Mine's gone.

Regards,

Dick Dillman/WPE2VT, ex-WA2BJK now N6VS

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 21:44:19 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:49:37 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.05.9502281235.B28336-91000000@booz.bah.com>
From: k1zat@bah.com
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, daniel wright wrote:

> > > Tom, WPE9GSX (another blast from
> > > POP'Tronix past...)
> in to Popular Electronics and got one of these things?? I was(am,I
> guess) WPE0DEN....I used to drive the "skip-shootin'" CBer up the

Yea man...de wpe1dlt and still got my certificate too.

jd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 21:45:53 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:51:27 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502280925.A9852-01000000@netcom8>
From: paul Veltman <veltman@NETCOM.COM>
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

> >
> > .. My Poor Man's Collins is a Heathkit SB102
> > ---

I had a WPE6 something call too. I haven't seen the certificate in a bunch of years.

You know gang, when Heath first came out, they were good rigs at a small price. Heath then got pricy until their kits were as expensive as Iceawoods (sorry Jack). Then they went under as I understand it. I think that there is still a market for cheap but good quality kit rigs. I run into a lot of new hams (mostly kids) that would jump at the chance to buy one. These kids are buying boatanchors because they can get them

at a reasonable price. Hmmmmmm. Just thinking.

73

Paul WA60KQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:05:47 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:52:07 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502280902.A9852-01000000@netcom8>
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

> > When the new issue of Popular Electronics hit the news stand, Carl &
> > was the FIRST thing that got read (unless, of course, the cover project
> > piece of ham or SWL gear!).

I forgot all about those stories. They were great, and you're right, the first thing read.

> > Carl probably got toked out in Haight / Ashbury and went on to become
> > datahead in Silicon Valley, while Jerry (probably divorced from Jody, the
> > fem-
> > ale engineer/ham) survived a tour in 'Nam and is now a laid off engineer
> > Lockheed who's turned into a survivalist :-(

Now, Now, let's not get personal here. ;-) My grandparents lived in the Haight for a few decades when it was a NICE neighborhood. We used to sleep over there when we were kids and then walk over to the 49er games and have a ball (before it took a mortgage to buy a NFL ticket). And Lockheed has a few gross of laid off engineers around here.

As an afterthought, I haven't seen Pop Tronics around in years. Is it still there?

73

Paul WA60KQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:12:27 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 10:38:31 -0600
Message-Id: <9502281607.AA06797@csrvcs1.triad.com>
From: bwb%csrvcs1.triad.com%triada.triad.com@triada.triad.com (Bruce Bacon)
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

In a previous message, Kasprzyk, Emil said:

|
|

| Emil KC5IZ, WPE5IE

| -----

| From: boatanchors
| To: Multiple recipients of list
| Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry
| Date: Tuesday, February 28, 1995 6:09AM

| OK gang, we heard from Tom, WPE9GSX and Bill, WPE9IRP, how many more of
| us are out there ? Oh, yes, I'm Ed WPE2JR (K2MP)

WPE6DIQ at your service.

--

-Bruce Bacon KE6GLS (bwb@triad.com) Livermore, CA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 23:13:13 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 20:18:55 -0600
Message-Id: <9503010228.AA08408@uvs1.orl.mmc.com>
From: padgett@tccslr.dnet.mmc.com (A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security)
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

Well if memory serves (no guarentees) I once held KBH770 - shortly thereafter
FCC went to seven digits but I paid for mine.

Warmly,
Padgett

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 1 00:09:35 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 21:44:15 -0600
Message-Id: <950228223926_35513217@aol.com>
From: Scgilstrap@aol.com
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry

>OK gang, we heard from Tom, WPE9GSX and Bill, WPE9IRP, how many more of
>us are out there ? Oh, yes, I'm Ed WPE2JR (K2MP)

Ok, I admit it, I'm another one ... WPE5CIA.

Stan - WB5LBH and still WPE5CIA too.

(Those WPE calls didn't have an expiration date did they?)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 10:18:20 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 07:34:10 -0600
Message-Id: <199502281341.AA04631@a553ca.orn.usace.army.mil>
From: dmccrar@a553ca.orn.usace.army.mil (Dalton McCrary)
Subject: Re: Carl & Jerry & WPE?'s

Yes, I too had one of those calls. WPE4JDH Still run across QSL's
I had printed for SW DXing. Wow, That was thirty years ago.....

73, Dalton N4OYS
(ex WA4WUQ/WN4WUQ)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 1 00:55:28 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 22:42:02 -0600
Message-Id: <84371.ddillman@igc.apc.org>
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Subject: Re: Choice HQ180 OR SP600

On Sun, 26 Feb 1995 15:09:56 -0600,
Randyc3@aol.com <Randyc3@aol.com> wrote:

>Let's see, the elections are over, we know where most people stand on O.J.,
>Rush Limbaugh, and Alien abductions of Elvis, sooooo I would like to ask a
>question that will surely start the group going... I have the option of
>buying a Hammarlund 180 or SP600. Have room for one or the other. I
>primarily do SWL, (not so much dx) and want to get back into ham at some
>point. I enjoy the BA group, and the idea of making/fixing stuff vs. buying
>it perfect is appealing to me. I also rebuild tube audio stuff, and an
>occasional chevy small block..

I'd have to vote for the SP-600 Randy, and not only because your experience
with the samll block Chevy will come in handy when dealing with this
receiver. I mean no slight to the HQ-180 as we all know the appeal of
a particular piece of gear has as much to do with how it speaks to your
emototions as much as anything else - well, it's that way for me, anyway.
And to me, the SP-600 says it's a tough, professional, hard-working radio
likely to have been found in a ship's radio room, coast station or
monitoring station. Or maybe it's that one of my early radio heros
was a radio officer - and carried his personal SP-600 from job to job!
A man of consequence, you must admit.

It's true the SP-600 is a bit drifty, at least mine is. And it's not
as modern as the HQ-180, but that should not be a consideration among
BA enthusiasts. But the SP-600 is something other radios will never
be: an SP-600.

Regards,

Dick "If I Can Lift It I'm Not Interested" Dillman

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 02:55:41 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 00:14:13 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502280030.A28364-0100000@ozarks>
From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>
Subject: Re: Drake Finals

On Mon, 27 Feb 1995, Mark Gaidos wrote:

>
> I believe that Drake used to sell matched sets of 6BJ6's for the
> TR-4. Does anyone know if they still do this?
>

In my last phone conversation with the factory ordering some parts I asked, as I always do, and they have no 6JB6s and don't expect to ever have any again. They said right now there are no really good ones being sold.... I bought a pair from an ad in one of the mags and they were made in Bulgaria. I could tell quickly you don't run full power and keep them in sockets for long!

I paid a ridiculous price for a pair of GEs from a certain bit tube store on the west coast and they were almost dead...they sent me another pair which were little better. I see they don't even advertise them in their ads anymore.

Have heard some guys on the air say they put 6146s in with good success, but I sure don't know how they squeezed them in there. A pair of 2E26s yes, or perhaps a single 4-65A.

Some enterprising company should develop a drop in solid state module... quite a market for them.

73, de Frank K0JPJ ex-W5PVX ..._._

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 09:53:21 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 06:41:04 -0600
Message-Id: <199502281249.EAA20539@ix2.ix.netcom.com>
From: jlockwd@ix.netcom.com (Jim Lockwood)
Subject: Re: Drake Finals

Regarding Drake finals:

>Some enterprising company should develop a drop in solid state
>module...

Solid state finals? Heresy...blasphemy.....

What *is* the world coming to?

Next, they'll want to solid state the entire rig. And that'll be the end of amateur radio as *we* know it.

Jim - km6nk/4

: -)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 17:27:05 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 10:23:53 -0600
Message-Id: <199502281633.AA274769201@hp.com>
From: Scott Turner <scott@hplst.lvld.hp.com>
Subject: Re: Drake Finals

>
> I believe that Drake used to sell matched sets of 6BJ6's for the
> TR-4. Does anyone know if they still do this?

No. While Drake still employs a gentleman in the service department who truly understands the older gear, that gentleman has been quite adamant when I've spoken to him about Drake stocking tubes (particularly 6JB6's) and other generic parts, such as the multi-type can caps (dangit!).

There are, however, vendors who will still sell you matched sets of finals if you look around. The key to finding them is in the vendor having adequate stock to accomplish the matching. For the T4X(x) transmitters with their pair of 6JB6's that's easier to accomplish than with the TR4(x)'s trio. Success will also vary as vendors' stocks of NOS tubes fluctuates. I have, for example, been able to purchase a matched pair (GE tubes) for my T4X from Antique Electronic Supply on one occasion, but not another. I've also been quoted availability from another vendor of NOS tubes for my TR4 (can't remember who it was, but not AES) but at an outrageous price. AES has never had a matched trio available when I've called.

Bottom line... Find NOS tube providers as advertised in various publications and start calling.

BTW, as far as tube substitution is concerned, I'd doubt you'd ever have much real luck without performing major surgery. The finals cages on both T4X's and TR4's allow little extra room for either taller or wider tubes. And that's leaving aside the issues of other electronic mods you'd have to make. 6JB6's are still out there and still fairly common and (relatively) inexpensive. It's just finding matched sets that seems to be getting difficult.

Anybody want to comment on how much real difference you're likely to see if you simply put in any old pair from a single vendor?

--

Tubularly yours (in a swept kinda way),

Scott Turner KG0MR scott@hplsla.lvld.hp.com -or- scottt@csn.net

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 17:29:44 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 10:27:31 -0600
Message-Id: <9502281634.AA21940@ausable.crd.Ge.Com>
From: mallick@ausable.crd.ge.com (John Mallick)
Subject: Re: Drake Finals

So does anyone know of a mod for converting the Drake finals to 6146's? If 6JB6's are getting scarce, I'll need to think about it. Heck, I may have to use my Valiant-I as a linear amplifier with the T4X-C as a driver...

73, John WA1HNL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:08:15 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 10:12:28 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502280740.B2404-01000000@mm1001.theporch.com>
From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Drake Finals

I had a t4x that someone had put a pair of 6146's in. It worked quite well. It was a verry tight fit. As I remember one could not use 6146B's because of the larger metal ring at the base.

Kevin J Pease
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.
mm1001.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:22:12 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 09:23:14 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502280900.A27113-01000000@ozarks>
From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>
Subject: Re: Drake Finals

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Jim Lockwood wrote:

> Regarding Drake finals:
>
> >Some enterprising company should develop a drop in solid state
> >module...
>
> Solid state finals? Heresy...blasphemy.....
>
> What *is* the world coming to?
>
> Next, they'll want to solid state the entire rig. And that'll be the end
> of amateur radio as *we* know it.
>
> Jim - km6nk/4
>
> :-)

Heck Jim the C line is already partially silicon and with the Satori and Sherwood mods I put in even more so.....

Yes I would miss the crackling and snapping of the tubes over heating.... but rather than just sitting there running the driver through the pi-net and playing QRP! Hi!

73, de Frank K0JPJ ex-W5PVX ...--

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:22:09 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 09:43:20 -0600
Message-Id: <9502281550.AA16684@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
From: owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov (James C. Owen)
Subject: Drake Receivers

ATT:Steve---I forget which one -- Looking for a Drake Receiver

Just received the latest issue of the YellowSheets/Ham Trader there are a number of Drake receivers for sale but several I thought you might be interested in. Note: these are not mine and I can't vouch for their condition. "Drake 2B \$100.00, R4B \$125.00 Mint working with manuals 317 525-6142" Might be worth making a call.

As to my personal choice. If both are of equal quality I would choose the R4B since it can transceive with it's companion transmitter. However, I think that the 2B has slightly better audio quality for SW broadcast. I still have my original 2B purchased in 1961 and also have an R4C that I use daily. Also have owned another 2B a 2A and 2 R4B's.

Hope I have been of some help.

73 Jim K4CGY

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 02:26:12 1995
Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 23:43:48 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.SGI.3.90.950228005037.9021C-100000@umbc7.umbc.edu>
From: Bill Robie <robie@umbc.edu>
Subject: Re: Filter caps

On Mon, 27 Feb 1995 DUBE2@delphi.com wrote:

> My old 1929 Majestic Model 92 still has the original filter caps in it,
> but it has just recently developed a slight hum. Looks like they just
> aren't going to last 70 years.

I'd send it back to the factory and raise hell. :-)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 11:30:29 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 08:22:01 -0600
Message-Id: <8A461B9.00C8001EB4.uuout@pics.com>
From: al.klase@pics.com (AL KLASE)
Subject: Filter caps

D2From: DUBE2@delphi.com

D2My old 1929 Majestic Model 92 still has the original filter caps in it,
but it has just recently developed a slight hum. Looks like they just
aren't going to last 70 years.

A lot of the early AC sets used paper filter caps, not
electrolytics. Many are still in good condition.

73,
Al N3FRQ

Al

1st 1.11 #6053

+-----+
| Pics OnLine MultiUser System 609/753-2540 HST 609-753-1534 VFC V34BIS|
| Massive File Collection - ftp,telnet,gopher,www,etc 2500+ Newsgroups |
| http://www.pics.com telnet://bbs.pics.com - Reverse FTP from the Board |
+-----+

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 18:37:35 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 16:20:08 -0600
Message-Id: <9502282226.AA06078@willow.sps.mot.com>
From: zoom@willow.sps.mot.com (Chris Terwilliger)
Subject: FS: 2B/2BQ, meissner

For Sale, offers welcome:

Drake 2-B with 2-BQ, no manual. ca. 1960-65, 12 bands, 3.5 - 30 Mhz.
Good/excellent condition, no mods or holes except for S0-239 added to
back panel. A few light scratches top and sides. Face and dials good
except for small crack in S-meter face. Knobs good and correct.
Chassis is a little dirty. \$200 plus shipping.

Meissner broadcast receiver. Model unknown, 550 - 1500 Khz. Fair
condition, no mods or holes. Chassis is electrically complete, but
dirty. No cabinet. Knobs present and presumed original, dial good.
For serious restorers only. Make offer? I would at least like
someone to give me some info on this one...

Chris Terwilliger, AA7WD
zoom@willow.sps.mot.com
602-413-5362 (W)
602-820-2584 (H)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 11:02:34 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 08:04:22 -0600
Message-Id: <9502281410.AA14778@netman>
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtetel.com>
Subject: Globe Champion parts

Anyone out there have a Globe champ 300A or 350 that you are parting
out or is otherwise defunct??

I'm looking for the above-the-chassis interstage shield with the cooling
fan to update my working Globe Champ 300 and prolong the life
of those hard to find AX9909s. Might be interested in other
parts for spares as well.

Thanks ... Grant Youngman / NQ5T

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:22:36 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 09:01:03 -0600
Message-Id: <9502281509.AA06147@cen.com>
From: gc@fox.gsfc.nasa.gov (Gary Chatters)
Subject: Heath K-1 query

While looking up something else, I came across a description of the Heath All-Wave Beginner's Radio, Model K-1. Seeing the write-up piqued my curiosity and I am wondering if one of the list's Heath collectors could give us a little historical review of the K-1.

The K-1 is a three tube regenerative receiver. It uses plug-in coils to cover at least the broadcast band and 1.5 - 6.0 Mc. Price in 1949, less speaker, headphones and cabinet was \$10 or \$15 including those items.

Do any of our Heath collectors (or anyone) have one of these?

Was this Heath's first receiver kit? If not, what was?

Could it cover other frequencies or was it limited to those two bands?

Has anyone used one of these? The only controls are tuning and on/off/volume. There is no regeneration control. Doesn't that kind of limit its usefulness?

I am not a Heath collector and am not really looking for one of them. Once in a while I see something like this and just want to find out a little more about it.

73,

Gary

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 09:02:41 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 06:22:23 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502280720.B26868-0100000@indy2>
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indynet.indy.net>
Subject: re: I asked my spies about bobbi's X-Ray generation...

Hi!

On Mon, 27 Feb 1995 Dave=Sharp%Legal%Corp=Hou@bangate.compaq.com wrote:
> Not only is Bobbi a *girl* but she is a darn SHARP one too.

>blush< You flatter me, sir: A) I won't reveal my age but anymore they call me "Ma'am" not "Miss" >sigh< and B) Sharp? With people on the list at or retired from many of the *top* electronics outfits and government agencies, or hams from Day One, or umpteenth-generation radio ops, it's a chore keeping up sometimes, and I count myself darned lucky to be here!

> (Sorry Bobbi [...] some of us old timers still use the term "girls")

Sorry? *Sorry???* Hmpf, save it for a younger gal; I know you boys don't use it as a put-down and these days, it's music to my ears! (How much longer do you suppose I can pretend the grey hairs are just "blonde streaks?")

...Didn't mean to get off-topic, but after having been, so to speak, put in T-shirt, chinos and brogans* in someone's mind's eye in the X-ray thread, I thought I'd better speak up! (And I'll admit to being a "Nervous Nellie" sometimes, but "old woman?" Oh, dear! I should whack him with my walker!)

73,
--Bobbi

*Pretty close, to my occasional horror--doing remotes for the TV station, you'll find me in sweatshirt, Levis and linesman's boots; it's practical! The News usually happens in navel-depth mud or worse, alas.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 1 00:12:27 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 21:56:47 -0600
Message-Id: <199503010355.VAA03751@uro.theporch.com>
From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Subject: Matched finals?

Reading with interest the difficulties of finding NOS matched finals these days has made me realize I'm really unaware as to *what* constitutes a "matched final"? Is it simply equal readings on a tube tester, or is there more to it than that?

73 de Jack

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 21:02:23 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:57:15 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502281252.A5229-0100000@indy1>
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indynet.indy.net>
Subject: One-chip[freq counter

Hi!

Awhile back, I mentioned the one-IC frequency counter I use, and a few folks expressed interest. It took awhile to make copies of the schematic, and now that I've got them, I can't find the addresses of

the people who wanted the info! (Organization? What's that?)

So, if you were among the curious, drop me a note!

73,
--Bobbi

PS: I just sold my only ricebox--now I'll *have* to get a little tube rig running, 'cos the Heath QRP thing doesn't so too well here in the city! Wonder what Kenwood would say if they knew I sold one of their xcvs to buy an HR0? :)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:21:32 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 09:49:58 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502280745.A20844-0100000@netcom10>
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: R-390A New Cost

>
> New cost of the original Collins R-390A 14214-Phila-51-93 was \$2210.00.
> Ouch, Uncle Sam!!

Your tax dollars hard at work! And people wonder why the debt is 4 Trillion :-|

Paul

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 18:36:28 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:50:57 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950228165308.1741A@little-miami.iac.net>
From: Bill Strangfeld <bstrang@iac.net>
Subject: RAK coils

The RAK coils turned out to be very popular and are spoken for. The first reply came one hour *before* my own posting was reflected back to me! Sorry that I don't have more. Looks like a lot of LF interest out there.

73 Bill WB8YUW

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 1 00:43:03 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 22:24:33 -0600
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950228232111.jproc@>
From: jproc@worldlinx.com
Subject: RAL Receiver

Dear Members,

A good friend of mine who does not have Internet access is looking for an RAL receiver. If anyone has a unit for sale, either return a E-mail message back to me or contact him directly:

Tom Brent
(604) 826-4051
US. Mailing address: Box 1552, Sumas WA 98295

Regards,

Jerry Proc, VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida, Toronto Ontario

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 22:00:55 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:48:36 -0600
Message-Id: <199502281710.JAA28907@netcom3.netcom.com>
From: rmccarty@netcom.com (roger mccarty)
Subject: Ranger 1 Meters Question

Fellow BA'ers,

On the Ranger 1, is the meter face supposed to be off yellow? Or were the two units I now have priorly owned by smokers? The Vikings seem to be pure white but these rangers are yellow both front and back.

Thanks,

Roger KD6CC

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 10:30:12 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 07:44:03 -0600
Message-Id: <9502232015.AA15277@wrdis01.robins.af.mil>
From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry Keith)
Subject: Suchadeal and heavy, too!

OK, the stack is now holding down one of the shelf units in my garage.. We may lose the house to the next tornado, but that shelf

will be there!

Here we go:

Primary: Taps for 105,115,125 VAC @ 1.91 Amps.

Secondaries:

6.3 VAC @ 8 Amps

5.0 VAC @ 3 Amps

900 VAC @ .25 Amps, center tapped

Dimensions: 4 5/8 x 3 7/8 x 4 3/4 (LxWxH).. Height does not include the mounting studs and terminals.

Weight: 14 lbs

These are used, pulled from equipment. They show some wear, light rust, etc. But, all of them look pretty good. Various manufacturers. Since these are military surplus, I would think that the current ratings are fairly conservative.

Price: \$15 + shipping. If you want one or more of these, please e-mail.. I am sending a copy of this to each person who previously expressed an interest...

73,

Larry, KQ4BY
Warner Robins, GA
lakeith@robins.af.mil

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 18:32:54 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:57:37 -0600
Message-Id: <199502221941.AB26229@mailstorm.dot.gov>
From: Thomas Bryan <tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov>
Subject: UPA-24 Control Box

Hello,

I have a control box for a UPA-24 shipboard IFF set. I think it was made in the early 1960s. Does anyone want this before I scrap it?

Tom Bryan
tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 1 00:09:34 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 20:28:21 -0600
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950228212510.jproc@>
From: jproc@worldlinux.com
Subject: Vacuum Tube Computers

Dear BA's

I started working with solid state computers in 1970 and have always wondered about the architecture of vacuum tube computers. I'm curious as to how much memory these monsters had, the bus width and what type of peripherals they used. These are boatanchors in the true sense of the word and can be very effective in securing an ocean liner.

Has anyone out there worked with tube computers?

Regards,

Jerry Proc, VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida, Toronto Ontario

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Mar 1 00:20:19 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 21:40:53 -0600
Message-Id: <9503010320.AA08649@uvs1.orl.mmc.com>
From: padgett@tccslr.dnet.mmc.com (A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security)
Subject: RE: Vacuum Tube Computers

>I started working with solid state computers in 1970 and have always wondered
>about the architecture of vacuum tube computers.

Well the first ones (Mark I, Mark II) used reed relays I am told (Amazing Grace's "bug" was a moth caught in one). By the time I started noticing such things (around 1960), one "bit" was a J-K flip-flop (bi-stable multivibrator) using two subminiature pentodes. Then there was magnetic core memory, and rotating drum (first use of interleaving) storage. The "peripherals" I learned on were all Teletypes (got real good with an ASR 33) @ 66 wpm when I started and went to 100 wpm around 1966. Could do a lot with 5-bit Baudot code but not graphics.

Meanwhile "real" computers were fed primarily with 80 column punch cards (a shoebox was the equivalent of a floppy envelope though I remember doing some early work with removable plugboards). These ran interpretively with one statement per card. Learned Fortran II as my first language.

Not sure just how much I remember but the logic was a lot simpler than a pentagrid converter.

>I'm curious as to how much memory these monsters had, the bus width and

>what type of peripherals they used.

Not much. 1k of FFs would be 2048 tubes, not sure that there really was a "bus width" but back then we usually counted in octal and not hex and most communications was serial not parallel. Of course most of the digital stuff I learned on had KW & KG designations and is not for polite company.

Might be able to dredge out some reference material but not sure. First "real" computer I worked with was a 360 but that was around 1970.

Warmly,
Padgett

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Feb 28 18:29:54 1995
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 16:00:14 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950228155117.5596A-100000@access4.digex.net>
From: Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net>
Subject: Winterfest & Footnotes

On Sun, 26 Feb 1995, Gary Chatters said:

> Went to Winterfest this morning in Vienna, VA.

I was there too and met Gary as I was consummating a deal for something I've always wanted ever since one of my mentors, W4HMH-(SK), installed one in his 1949 Chevy: a Stancor ST-203-A for \$12!!!! (This will be an opportunity to thank Gary publically for sending me the info on the little Stancor!)

> The weather was tolerable. Temperature was about 40, compared to 20
> last year. I have a hard time liking this hamfest very much. There is
> not a lot of tailgate space. I had to park about 4 blocks away at the
> Safeway. Inside is crowded. But it is big enough to have something
> worth buying and it comes when there aren't any other hamfests close by.

I agree 100% with Gary on this one. This is about the most overrated hamfest of the year, but then again, it's the first around here except of course for the 125 mile drive down to Richmond for the Frostfest.

> I managed to just miss a couple of deals on boatanchors. One hamfest
> dealer had two R-390A's (or one R-390A and a similar radio with the name
> plate missing). One was a bit modified, the other looked good except
> for some corrosion on the front panel. He was asking \$100 each or
> both for \$175. He sold one. Built by some company that I hadn't
> heard of before.

I saw this guy (the one with the big U-Haul type truck?) and I overheard him quote \$125 for the R-390-A's. They were with covers, but otherwise looked a little rough to me, so since compulsive me already has too many projects awaiting attention, I passed. I also hear him say that he had two more on the truck, but I didn't ask to see them. (Same reason.)

There was a guy there with a fairly nice HQ-129-X with speaker that he was asking \$150 for. I started to offer \$125 and even looped back by three times, but passed. It was still on the table when I left shortly before noon. (Darn!)

The other thing I saw that Gary didn't mention was a National speaker that the guy was asking \$50 for. I saw somebody leaving the building with it a bit later on.

As a footnote, if anybody is going to be in the Baltimore area on the weekend of March 25-26, the hamfest at the Timonium, MD, fairgrounds is usually one of the biggest of the year in this area. They've started shoving the computer dealers off into a separate building, so that makes it a bit better.

AND as a second (off-subject) footnote, I hear that Cliff Stoll, K7TA is going to be guest speaker at the banquet at Dayton this year. He's the guy that cracked the German-KGB hackers that the NOVA PBS series featured a few years back. Cliff is definitely "state of the art" and probably not a BA'er, but he's a fascinating speaker. He tends to prove that there's a very fine line between absolute lunacy and genius. ;^)

73,

Tony
K4KY0